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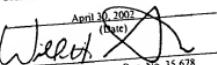
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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tetsuya Mashiko et al.
Appl. No. : 09/676,895
Filed : October 2, 2000
For : MULTIPLE VALVE ENGINE
FOR WATERCRAFT
Examiner : E. Swinehart

) Group Art Unit 3617

) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
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United States Postal Service as first-class mail in
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20231, on

) April 30, 2002
(Date)

William H. Shreve, Reg. No. 35,678

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AMENDMENT

01 FC:102

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

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MAY 09 2002

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2001, Applicants respectfully submit
the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application.
IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first full paragraph entitled "Priority Information," which begins
at page 1, line 5, as follows:

This application is based on and claims priority to Japanese Patent Application
No. Hei 11-277919, filed September 30, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend Claims 1, 2, and
4-19 as follows:

1. (Amended) A watercraft comprising an internal combustion engine and a hull
defining a center plane extending generally vertically from bow to stern, the internal combustion
engine comprising a cylinder body defining at least one cylinder bore, an axis of the cylinder bore
slanting from the center plane, a piston reciprocating within the cylinder bore, a crankshaft, a